

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8662

S E C R E T MANILA 5895

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LIMDIS

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, MMOL, MPOL (HOLBROOKE, RICHARD C.)

SUBJ: HOLBROOKE'S VISIT TO THE MILITARY BASES

1. IN ADDITION TO HIS PARTICIPATING IN THE AMBASSADOR'S WORKING COUNTRY TEAM DINNER, THE AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION, AND PROTRACTED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MARCOSES ABOARD THE PRESIDENTIAL YACHT (BEING REPORTED SEPTEL), ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE SPENT FULL DAY AT SUBIC AND CLARK APRIL 18 FOR BRIEFINGS AND TOURS OF PRIMARY FACILITIES.

2. AT SUBIC, RADM KILCLINE PROVIDED GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBIC'S MISSION IN SUPPORT OF THE 7TH FLEET, DRAWING PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE LOGISTICS FUNCTION, THE SHIP REPAIR FACILITY, THE CUBI POINT NAVAL AIR STATION AND THE MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE. HOLBROOKE POSED HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION OF HOW SUBIC COULD RESPOND TO MAJOR REDUCTION, OR TOTAL CLOSURE, OF CLARK. KILCLINE SAID THAT CUBI AIR STATION WAS OVERCROWDED AND COULD NOT HANDLE THE MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND (MAC) TRAFFIC WHICH PASSES THROUGH CLARK (AVERAGE OF SEVEN FLIGHTS DAILY--C-55, C-130S AND C-141S). THE ADMIRAL EMPHASIZED THAT SUBIC HAD NO CAPABILITY TO FULFILL THE OTHER, NON-MAC, AIR MISSIONS OF CLARK.

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3. AT CLARK, MGEN POSTON PROVIDED A FULL DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT DEPLOYMENTS, MANPOWER AND MISSIONS OF THE BASE. THE HIGHLIGHTS WERE AS FOLLOW:

DEPLOYMENTS: 2 SQUADRONS OF F-4ES

1 SQUADRON OF C-130S

1 SQUADRON OF T-38S

MANPOWER: 9,000 PLUS OFFICERS AND MEN
MISSIONS (PRIMARILY SURGE OPERATIONS THROUGH CLARK
IN SUPPORT OF WAR CONTINGENCIES):

	COMBAT FLIGHTS	SUPPORT FLIGHTS
GENERAL WAR (USSR	1,882	2,160
TAIWAN	0	4,556
KOREA	0	9,774
EMERGENCY EVACUATION (NEMVAC) ?		?
MARIANAS	0	?

MGEN POSTON SAID THAT 13TH AF HAS RECOMMENDED TO HIGHER
HEADQUARTERS THAT CERTAIN MANPOWER REDUCTIONS AT CLARK
TAKE PLACE, SUGGESTING A STAFFING TARGET OF 5,500 PACAF
PERSONNEL. POSTON SAID THAT THESE REDUCTIONS SHOULD OCCUR
OVER A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME, NOT YET DETERMINED, TO
AVOID DISRUPTING ESSENTIAL MISSIONS. AS AN EXAMPLE
OF THE KIND OF REDUCTIONS WHICH COULD BE MADE, POSTON
SAID THAT THE HEADQUARTERS STAFF COULD BE REDUCED FROM A
CURRENT LEVEL OF OVER 100 TO 60.

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